

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 05488 051608Z
ACTION NODS-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7522

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 5488

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E.O. 11692: GDS
TAGS: IAEA, MNUC, PORG, PK
SUBJECT: PAKISTANI CANDIDACY FOR IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

REF: A) VIENNA 5016, B) STATE 141229

1. I RECOGNIZE THAT OUR SUPPORT IN SUCH MATTERS AS APPORTIONING SEATS ON INTERNATIONAL BODIES LIKE IAEA INVOLVES A VERY COMPLICATED CALCULUS OF BOTH IO AND REGIONAL BUREAU CONSIDERATIONS. I WOULD ADD ONLY THAT IF THE GOP HAS DECIDED TO SEEK A SEAT FOR MUNIR KHAN ON IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS, AS SUGGESTED REFTTEL, WE SHOULD GIVE FULL WEIGHT TO OUR CURRENT REPROCESSING SCENARIO IN COMING TO A DECISION ON WHETHER OR NOT THE US WOULD SUPPORT A PAK CANDIDACY.

2. IN THE DAYS AND WEEKS AHEAD, WE WILL CONSCIOUSLY BE LOOKING FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO REASSURE THE GOP THAT THE PENDING FRENCH DECISION TO CANCEL THE REPROCESSING PLANT CONTRACT DOES NOT RULE OUT FOR PAKISTAN A NUCLEAR FUTURE, AT LEAST IN TERMS OF ITS PLANS FOR ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION. WE CAN SYMBOLICALLY REAFFIRM OUR FAITH IN PAKISTAN'S TECHNOLOGICAL CAPABILITIES AND IN ITS NUCLEAR ENERGY FUTURE BY SUPPORTING THE CANDIDACY OF PAKISTAN'S VERY ABLE AEC CHAIRMAN FOR THE IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS. THIS IS, IN FACT, A
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SUBJECT WE COULD DISCUSS WITH BOTH THE THAIS AND THE PERSIANS.

3. DEPARTMENT REPEAT AS DESIRED.
HUMMEL

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NNN

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